

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/775,680	MATSUDA, SHINYA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Cheukfan Lee	2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment filed March 2, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|--|

Cheukfan Lee

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1. All pending claims 1-16 are allowed. Claims 1, 7 and 12 are independent.
2. Claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, and 15 have been amended to overcome the objection set forth in the previous Office Action dated January 13, 2006. The objection of claims 2-5, 13 and 16, which were objected to as being dependent on the objected claims, have thus been overcome.

The corrected drawing Fig. 4 filed March 2, 2006 has been approved by the examiner.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The reasons for allowance for claims 1-6, 7-11, and 12-16 given in the previous Office Action are still valid after the updated search. The reasons are repeated below.

Claim 1 requires that the processor variously set a reading sequence for reading of a plurality of the partial areas of the specific region, and that the controller control the image sensing unit to read the partial areas in the set reading sequence. The closest prior art Cheatle (U.S. Patent No. 6,71,396) does not teach the combination of the claimed features. Cheatle discloses moving the actuator (25) and thus the camera 92) to read the partial areas (tiles) of the document (10) in a predetermined pattern (col. 6, lines 35-40). However, the pattern is not variously set.

Claims 2-6 depend on claim 1.

Independent claim 7 requires a controller for variously controlling the predetermined sequence in which the optical images of the plurality of sections of the specific region are directed. This feature of variously controlling the predetermined sequence by the controller, in combination with other limitations of claim 7, is not taught by the closest prior art Cheatle (6,771,396) discussed above.

Claims 8-11 depend on claim 7.

Independent claim 12 requires that the input device input the plurality of partial images of the document in a predetermined sequence, the predetermined sequence being dependent on the orientation of the sheet onto which the images are outputted. This feature in combination with other limitations of claim 12 is not taught by the prior art of record, including Cheatle (6,771,396) discussed above.

Claims 13-16 depend on claim 12.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheukfan Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7407. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon-Fri.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cheukfan Lee
March 16, 2006


Cheukfan Lee